

Our people, who transport themselves, are settled in those interjacent tracts, as a *screen* against the insults of the savages.

My juniors by a year,
Who wisely thought my age a *screen*,
When death approach'd, to stand between,
The *screen* remov'd, their hearts are trembling.

2. Any thing used to exclude cold or light.
When there is a *screen* between the candle and the eye, yet the light passeth to the paper whereon one writeth.

One speaks the glory of the British queen,
And one describes a charming Indian *screen*.

Ladies make their old cloaths into patchwork for *screens* and stools.

3. A riddle to sift land.

TO SCREEN. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To shelter; to conceal; to hide.

Back'd with a ridge of hills,
That *screen'd* the fruits of th' earth and seats of men,
From cold Septentrion blasts.

A good magistrate's retinue of state *screens* him from the dangers, which he is to incur for the sake of it.

This gentle deed shall fairly be set foremost,
To *screen* the wild escapes of lawless passion.

2. [Corno crevi, Latin.] To sift; to riddle.

Let the cases be filled with natural earth, taken the first half spit, from just under the turf of the best pasture ground, mixed with one part of very mellow soil *screened*.

SCREW. *n. s.* [from *sero*, Dutch; *seren*, French.] One of the mechanical powers, which is defined a right cylinder cut into a furrowed spiral: of this there are two kinds, the male and female; the former being cut convex, so that its threads rise outwards; but the latter channelled on its concave side, so as to receive the former.

The *serew* is a kind of wedge, that is multiplied or continued by a helical revolution about a cylinder, receiving its motion not from any stroak, but from a veltis at one end of it.

After your apples are ground, commit them to the *serew* press, which is the best.

TO SCREW. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To turn by a screw.

If we should fail—
—We fail!

But *serew* your courage to the sticking place,
And we'll not fail.

Some, when the press by utmost vigour *serew'd*,
Has drain'd the pulposus mass, regale their wine
With the dry refuse.

2. To fasten with a screw.

To *serew* your lock on the door, make wide holes, big enough to receive the flank of the screw.

3. To deform by contortions.

Sometimes a violent laughter *serew'd* his face,
And sometimes ready tears dropp'd down apace.

With *serew'd* face, and doleful whine, they ply you with senseless harangues against human inventions on the one hand, and loud outcries for a further reformation on the other.

He *serew'd* his face into a harden'd smile,
And laid Sebastian knew to govern slaves.

Let others *serew* their hypocritical face,
She shews her grief in a sincerer place.

4. To force; to bring by violence.

He resolv'd to govern by subaltern ministers, who *serew'd* up the pins of power too high.

No discourse can be administered, but they will try to turn the tide, and draw it all into their own channel; or they will *serew* in here and there some intimations of what they said or did.

The rents of land in Ireland, since they have been so enormously raised and *serew'd* up, may be computed to be about two millions.

5. To squeeze; to press.

6. To oppress by extortion.

Our country landlords, by unmeasurable *serewing* and racking their tenants, have already reduced the miserable people to a worse condition than the peasants in France.

SCREW TREE. *n. s.* [from *sero*, Latin.] A plant of the East and West Indies.

TO SCRIBBLE. *v. a.* [from *scribo*, Latin.]
1. To fill with artless or worthless writing.

How gird the sphere
With centrick and eccentric, scribbled o'er
Cycle and epicycle, orb in orb.

2. To write without use or elegance.

If a man should affirm, that an ape casually meeting with pen, ink and paper, and falling to scribble, did happen to write exactly the Leviathan of Hobbes, would an atheist believe such a story? And yet he can easily digest things as incredible as that.

If Mævius scribble in Apollo's spite,
There are, who judge still worse than he can write.

Leave flattery to fulsome dedicators,
Whom, when they praise, the world believes no more.

SCRIBBLE. *n. s.* [from the verb.] Worthless writing.

By solemnly endeavouring to countenance my conjectures, I might be thought dogmatical in a hasty scribble.

If it struck the present taste, it was soon transferred into the plays and current scribbles of the week, and became an addition to our language.

SCRIBBLER. *n. s.* [from scribble.] A petty author; a writer without worth.

The most copious writers are the arrantest scribblers, and in so much talking the tongue runs before the wit.

The actors represent such things as they are capable of, by which they and the scribbler may get their living.

The scribbler, pinch'd with hunger, writes to dine,
And to your genius must conform his line.

To affirm he had cause to apprehend the same treatment with his father, is an improbable scandal flung upon the nation by a few bigotted French scribblers.

No body was concerned or surpris'd, if this or that scribbler was proved a dunce.

SCRIBE. *n. s.* [from *scribo*, French; *scriba*, Latin.]

1. A writer.

Hearts, tongues, figures, scribes, bards, poets, cannot Think, speak, cast, write, sing, number, ho!

My master, being the scribe to himself, should write the letter.

A certain scribe came and said, master, I will follow thee.

We are not to wonder, if he thinks not fit to make any perfect and unerring scribe.

The following letter comes from some notable young female scribe.

2. A public notary.

SCRIMER. *n. s.* [from *serimur*, French.] A gladiator; a fencing master. Not in use.

The scrimers of their nation,
He swore, had neither motion, guard, nor eye,
If you oppos'd them.

SCRINE. *n. s.* [from *scrinium*, Latin.] A place in which writings or curiosities are deposited.

Help then, O holy virgin,
Thy weaker novice to perform thy will;
Lay forth, out of thine everlasting scrine,
The antique rolls which there lie hidden still.

SCRIP. *n. s.* [from *scrippa*, Islandick.]

1. A small bag; a fatchel.

Come, shepherd, let us make an honourable retreat; though not with bag and baggage, yet with scrip and scrippage.

He'd in requital ope his leathern scrip,
And shew me similes of a thousand names,
Telling their strange and vigorous faculties.

2. [From *scriptio*, Latin, as it seems.] A schedule; a small writing.

Call them generally man by man, according to the scrip.

Bills of exchange cannot pay our debts abroad, till scrips of paper can be made current coin.

SCRIPPAGE. *n. s.* [from scrip.] That which is contained in a scrip.

SCRIPTORY. *adj.* [from *scriptorius*, Latin.] Written; not orally delivered.

SCRIPTURAL. *adj.* [from *scriptura*.] Contained in the Bible; biblical.

By creatures, the scriptural use of that word determines it sometimes to men.

SCRIPTURE. *n. s.* [from *scriptura*, Latin.]

1. Writing.

It is not only remembered in many scriptures, but famous for the death and overthrow of Crassus.

2. Sacred writing; the Bible.

With us there is never any time bestowed in divine service, without the reading of a great part of the holy scriptures, which we account a thing most necessary.

The devil can cite scripture for his purpose:
An evil soul producing holy witness,
Is like a villain with a smiling cheek.

There is not any action which a man ought to do, or to forbear, but the scripture will give him a clear precept, or prohibition for it.

Forbear any discourse of other spirits, till his reading the scripture history put him upon that enquiry.

Scripture proof was never the talent of these men, and 'tis no wonder they are foiled.

Why are scripture maxims put upon us, without taking notice of scripture examples, that lie cross 'em?

The author of nature and the scriptures has expressly enjoined, that he who will not work, shall not eat.

SCRIVENER. *n. s.* [from *scribo*, Latin.]

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1. One who draws contracts.

We'll pass the business privately and well:
Send for your daughter by your servant here,
My boy shall fetch the scrivener.

2. One whose business is to place money at interest.

How happy in his low degree,
Who leads a quiet country life,
And from the griping scrivener free?

I am reduced to beg and borrow from scrivener and usurers, that suck the heart and blood.

SCROFULA. *n. s.* [from *serofa*, Latin, a sow, as *serofa*.]

A depravation of the humours of the body, which breaks out in sores commonly called the king's evil.

If matter in the milk dispose to coagulation, it produces a scrofula.

SCROFULOUS. *adj.* [from *serofula*.] Diseased with the scrofula.

Scrofulous persons can never be duly nourished; for such as have tumours in the parotides often have them in the pancreas and melentery.

English consumptions generally proceed from a scrofulous disposition.

What would become of the race of men in the next age, if we had nothing to trust to, beside the scrofulous consumptive production furnished by our men of wit and pleasure?

SCROLL. *n. s.* [Supposed by *Minshew* to be corrupted from *roll*; by *Skinner* derived from *seruella*, a shrimp given by the heralds: whence parchment, wrapped up into a resembling form, has the same name. It may be observed, that a gaoler's list of prisoners is *seruella*.] A writing wrapped up.

His chamber all was hanged about with rolls,
And old records from ancient times deriv'd;

Some made in books, some in long parchment scrolls,
That were all worm-eaten, and full of canker holes.

Accept this scroll,
Which, in right of Richard Plantagenet,
We do exhibit to your majesty.

See't thou this letter, take it up,
And give the king this fatal plotted scroll.

We'll add a royal number to the dead,
Gracing the scroll, that tells of this war's loss,
With slaughter coupled to the name of kings.

Here is the scroll of every man's name, which is thought fit through all Athens to play in our interlude.

A Numidian priest, bellowing out certain superstitious charms, cast divers scrolls of paper on each side the way, wherein he cursed and banned the Christians.

He drew forth a scroll of parchment, and delivered it to our foremost man.

Such follow him, as shall be register'd;
Part good, part bad: of bad the longer scroll.

With this epistolary scroll,
Receive the partner of my inmost soul.

Yet if he wills, may change or spoil the whole;
May take yon' beauteous, my tick, stary roll,
And burn it, like an useless parchment scroll.

SCROYLE. *n. s.* [This word I remember only in *Shakespeare*: it seems derived from *seruella*, French, a scrofulous swelling; as he calls a mean fellow a *scab* from his itch, or a patch from his raggedness.] A mean fellow; a rascal; a wretch.

The scroyles of Angiers flout you kings,
And stand securely on their battlements,
As in a theatre.

TO SCRUB. *v. a.* [from *scruben*, Dutch.] To rub hard with something coarse and rough.

Such wrinkles as a skilful hand would draw
For an old grandam ape, when, with a grace,
She sits at squat, and scrubs her leathern face.

She never would lay aside the use of brooms and scrubbing brushes.

Now Moll had whirl'd her mop with dextrous airs,
Prepar'd to scrub the entry and the stairs.

SCRUB. *n. s.* [from the verb.]

1. A mean fellow, either as he is supposed to scrub himself for the itch, or as he is employed in the mean offices of scouring away dirt.

2. Any thing mean or despicable.

With a dozen large vessels my vault shall be stor'd;
No little scrub joint shall come on my board.

3. A worn out broom.

SCRUBBED. *adj.* [from *scrub*, Danish.] Mean; vile; worthless.

SCRUBBY. *adj.* [from *scrub*.] I gave it to a youth,
A kind of boy, a little scrubbed boy,
No higher than thyself.

The scrubbiest cur in all the pack,
Can set the mastiff on your back.

The scene a wood, produc'd no more
Than a few scrubby trees before.

SCRUFF. *n. s.* The same, I suppose, with *serf*, by a metaphysical use in pronunciation.

SCRUPLE. *n. s.* [from *scrupule*, French; *scrupulus*, Latin.]

1. Doubt; difficulty of determination; perplexity: generally about minute things.

Macduff, this noble passion,
Child of integrity, hath from my soul
Wip'd the black scruples, reconcil'd my thoughts
To your good truth.

Nothing did more fill foreign nations with admiration of his succession, than the content of all estates of England for the receiving of the king without the least scruple, pause, or question.

For the matter of your confession, let it be severe and serious; but yet so as it may be without any inordinate anxiety, and unnecessary scruples, which only intangle the soul.

Men make no scruple to conclude, that those propositions, of whose knowledge they can find in themselves no original, were certainly the impress of God and nature upon their minds, and not taught them by any one else.

2. Twenty grains; the third part of a dram.

Milk one ounce, oil of vitriol a scruple, doth coagulate; the milk at the bottom, where the vitriol goeth.

3. Proverbially, any small quantity.

Nature never lends
The smallest scruple of her excellence,
But, like a thrifty goddess, she determines
Herself the glory of a creditor.

TO SCRUPLE. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To doubt; to hesitate.

He scrupled not to eat
Against his better knowledge; not deceiv'd,
But fondly overcome with female charms.

SCRUPLER. *n. s.* [from *scrupule*.] A doubter; one who has scruples.

The scruples which many publick ministers would make of the worthiness of parents to have their children baptised, forced such questioned parents, who did not believe the necessity of having their children baptised by such scruplers, to carry their children unto other ministers.

SCRUPULOSITY. *n. s.* [from *scrupulosus*.]

1. Doubt; minute and nice doubtfulness.

Amongst ourselves there was some question mov'd, by reason of a few mens scrupulosity touching certain things.

The one sort they warn'd to take heed, that scrupulosity did not make them rigorous in giving unadvised sentence against their brethren which were free; the other, that they did not become scandalous, by abusing their liberty and freedom to the offence of their weak brethren, which were scrupulous.

So careful, even to scrupulosity, were they to keep their sabbath, that they must not only have a time to prepare them for that, but a further time also to prepare them for their very preparations.

2. Fear of acting in any manner; tenderness of conscience.

The first scruple is looked on with some horror; but when they have once made the breach, their scrupulosity soon retires.

SCRUPULOUS. *adj.* [from *scrupulosus*, French; *scrupulosus*, Latin; from *scrupule*.]

1. Nicely doubtful; hard to satisfy in determinations of conscience.

They warn'd them that they did not become scandalous, by abusing their liberty, to the offence of their weak brethren which were scrupulous.

Some birds, inhabitants of the waters, whose blood is cold as filth, and their flesh is so like in taste, that the scrupulous are allowed them on fish-days.

2. Given to objections; captious.

Equality of two domestick pow'rs
Breeds scrupulous faction.

3. Nice; doubtful.

As the cause of a war ought to be just, so the justice of that cause ought to be evident; not obscure, not scrupulous.

4. Careful; vigilant; cautious.

I have been the more scrupulous and wary, in regard the inferences drawn from these observations are of some importance.

SCRUPULOUSLY. *adv.* [from *scrupulosus*.] Carefully; nicely; anxiously.

The duty consists not scrupulously in minutes and half hours.

Henry V. manifestly derived his courage from his piety, and was scrupulously careful not to ascribe the success of it to himself.

SCRUPULOUSNESS. *n. s.* [from *scrupulosus*.] The state of being scrupulous.

SCRUTABLE. *adj.* [from *scrutator*, Latin.] Discoverable by inquiry.

Shall we think God to be scrutable, or ourselves to be penetratings that none of his secrets can escape us?

SCRUTATION. *n. s.* [from *scrutator*, Latin.] Search; examination; inquiry.

SCRUTATOR. *n. s.* [from *scrutator*, Fr. from *scrutator*, Lat.] Enquirer; searcher; examiner.